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I hereby certify that this paper and all papers and fees referred to herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C.
Paige E. Snyder

Paige E. Snyder

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Thakker et al. Examiner: Unassigned

Serial No.: To Be Assigned Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith Docket No.: 421/15/2

For: METHOD OF SCREENING CANDIDATE COMPOUNDS FOR SUSCEPTIBILITY TO OXIDATIVE METABOLISM

* * * * * * * * * * * *

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the subject U.S. Continuation Patent Application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4:

--This application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. patent application serial no. 09/205,762 filed December 4, 1998 herein incorporated by reference.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 2-6 and 12-20.

1. (Amended) A method of screening a candidate compound for susceptibility to metabolism by a selected enzyme, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) reacting the candidate compound, an indicator compound precursor and the selected enzyme, the enzyme characterized as having a side reaction associated with metabolic activity of the enzyme wherein a chemical species capable of reacting with the indicator compound precursor is produced, wherein the selected enzyme is xanthine oxidase; and

(b) detecting an indicator compound, the indicator compound produced from the indicator compound precursor by reaction with the chemical species

produced from the side reaction associated with metabolic activity of the enzyme, the detection of the indicator compound indicating the susceptibility of the candidate compound to metabolism by the enzyme.

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 7-11 are now pending in the present application. Claims 2-6 and 12-20 have been canceled herein by preliminary amendment in view of the prosecution of these claims in the parent application, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/205,762, filed December 4, 1998, of the present application. It is further noted that the present application comprises a photocopy of the parent application as filed. Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the selected enzyme is xanthine oxidase. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the subject U.S. patent application as filed, including in now canceled claim 6. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Additionally, the specification has been amended to include a paragraph which reflects the priority claim to the parent application, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/205,762 filed December 4, 1998.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment to Deposit Account No. **50-0426**.

Respectfully submitted,

JENKINS & WILSON, P.A.

Date: 11-05-01 By: _____

Arles A. Taylor, Jr.
Registration No. 39,395

Suite 1400 University Tower
3100 Tower Boulevard
Durham, North Carolina 27707
Telephone: (919) 493-8000
Facsimile: (919) 419-0383
Customer No. Bar Code Label:
421/15/2 AAT/ajm

25297
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4, has been added as follows:

--This application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. patent application serial no. 09/205,762 filed December 4, 1998 herein incorporated by reference.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A method of screening a candidate compound for susceptibility to metabolism by a selected enzyme, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) reacting the candidate compound, an indicator compound precursor and the selected enzyme, the enzyme characterized as having a side reaction associated with metabolic activity of the enzyme wherein a chemical species capable of reacting with the indicator compound precursor is produced, wherein the selected enzyme is xanthine oxidase; and

(b) detecting an indicator compound, the indicator compound produced from the indicator compound precursor by reaction with the chemical species produced from the side reaction associated with metabolic activity of the enzyme, the detection of the indicator compound indicating the susceptibility of the candidate compound to metabolism by the enzyme.